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REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for renumbering Claim 28 as Claim 27. Consequently, Claims 1, 3 - 6, 8 - 11 and 13 - 27 are pending in the present Application. In the above-identified Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 1, 4, 6, 9, 11, 14, 16, 17, 19, 20, 22, 23, 25 and 26 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Angiulo et al. in view of Cragun et al. Claims 3, 5, 8, 10, 13, 15, 18, 21, 24 and 27 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Angiulo et al. in view of Cragun et al. and further in view of Stone et al.

For the reasons stated more fully below, Applicants submit that the claims in the Application are allowable over the applied references. Hence, reconsideration, allowance and passage to issue are respectfully requested.

As mentioned in the Application as well as in the Responses to the two previous Office Actions, image files contain much more data than text files and thus take longer to download and display. In addition, the more complex the image the greater the amount of data needed to represent the image. Hence, it can be very frustrating, when displaying a document containing more than one graphic image of which only one (image) or none may be of interest to a user, for the user to wait for the whole document to be downloaded and displayed. Conventional browsers have afforded users the luxury of stopping the download and display of a document by a simple mouse click on a "STOP" button. However, when the stop button is used, the display of the whole document, including all image files and text file, is aborted and not just the images that are not of interest. The present invention provides a mechanism to

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either suspend or altogether cancel the download and display of graphic images in a document.

In accordance with the teachings of the invention when a text file containing an embedded image file is to be displayed, the display of the image file will be stopped (while the image file is being displayed) if it is of no interest to the user. The capability of displaying only image files of interest to the user greatly reduces the time the user spends waiting for the entire Web page to be displayed.

The invention is set forth in claims of varying scopes of which Claim 1, reproduced immediately below, is illustrative.

1. A method of controlling web browser document displays, said document being displayed on a display system and having at least a text file and an image file, said method comprising the steps of:
 - displaying said text file on said display system;
 - displaying said image file on said display system; and
 - independently halting the display of said image file, while said image file is being displayed,*** if said image file is not of interest to a user. (Emphasis added.)

The Examiner conceded that Angiulo et al. do not teach independently "halting displaying of said image file after displaying said image" [sic]. Nonetheless, the Examiner rejected the claims. To support the rejection, the Examiner asserted that "Cragun et al. teaches the selective halting of images in HTML pages as desired by a user". Consequently, the Examiner reasoned, it would have been obvious to a person skilled in the art to combine the

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teachings of Angiulo et al. with those of Cragun et al. to arrive at the claimed invention. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Cragun et al. purport to teach an apparatus and method for the manual selective blocking of images. According to the teachings of Cragun et al., when a Web page that includes images is displayed, a user may select one or more images to block from being displayed in the future. If the user does so, when the page is re-accessed in the future, the blocked image or images will not be displayed.

However, Cragun et al. do not teach, show or so much as suggest ***independently halting the display of an image, while the image is being displayed*** as claimed. Hence, combining the teachings of Angiulo et al. with those of Cragun et al. will not show the claimed invention.

The Examiner rejected some of the dependent claims using Stone et al. in combination with Angiulo et al. and Cragun et al. But, as applicants stated in the Response to the first Office Action, Stone et al. purport to disclose a Web browser control mechanism for incorporating Web browser functionality into application programs. According to Stone et al., a software object called a Web browser control exposes Web browser functionality to application programs through an application programming interface. Accordingly, the Web browser control includes a "stop" button or has a "stop" interface command. When the stop interface command is used, the whole Web document display is aborted.

Thus, Stone et al. do not teach, show or suggest ***independently halting the display of an image, while the image is being displayed*** as claimed.

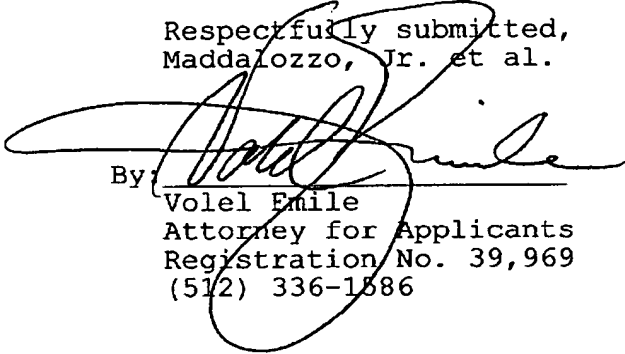
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Consequently, combining Angiulo et al. and Cragun et al. with Stone et al. does not show, teach or suggest the claimed invention.

All the claims in the Application contain, in one form or another, the above-identified element. Applicants, therefore, submit that the pending claims are allowable over the cited references. Thus, reconsideration, allowance and passage to issue are once more respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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